3/7/22

Dear Planning & Development Committee members

I am writing to express my qualified support of <u>SB 323</u> (Raised) AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MUNICIPAL TREE REMOVAL ACCOUNT. It is critically important that this Act requires that funds in this account must also be designated to be used for tree planting, roadside forest planning and planting in all other natural locations when trees are removed in the municipality, ensuring that there is no net loss of trees in the municipality. The Right Tree, Right Place principle could be used to ensure appropriate trees are planted to replace those removed. Trees must live and thrive throughout the towns so that all neighborhoods benefit from their services.

A no net loss of trees requirement is essential to the health of our ecosystem and the residents of our towns. Dead and diseased trees should be removed and healthy trees planted to replace them, to help Connecticut achieve resilience in the face of climate change.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely, Diane Hoffman 190 Wilmot Rd. Hamden, CT 06514